

Thursday Scholarship Series

MARY-LOU FALLIS

COLORATURA SOPRANO

GARY RELYEA

BARITONE

KATHRYN ROOT

PIANO

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1977

8:30 pm

Walter Hall
Faculty of Music

Edward
Johnson
Building

University of Toronto

Note on The Great Lakes Suite

James Reaney and I have been friends since undergraduate days at the University of Toronto. In 1949, when we had just graduated, I set the six poems in his Great Lakes Suite from his typescript. This was thus before they appeared in The Red Heart and Other Poems, the volume which won him the first of his two Governor-General's awards for poetry and on which his early reputation was largely built (excerpts from it now appear in school readers, though the original book is a collector's item). The chamber-musical setting was introduced in 1950 by an ensemble including Lois Marshall and the late Rowland Pack, and has since been revived fairly regularly. It may be regarded in retrospect as an early study for the opera Night Blooming Cereus and the collage-cycle Canada Dash, Canada Dot both of which Reaney and I later collaborated on.

In the first five movements, the words are projected as if by characters in a patriotic school pageant. In the finale ("Lake Ontario"), a more serious and realistic tone is struck as the protagonist on Ontario's shore resolves to become a megaphone conveying the waves' "blue roar" to the rest of the world.

John Beckwith

Next Event: Opera Department, The Four Ruffians, January 21, 22, 28, 29, 1977, 8:00 p.m. MacMillan Theatre.

Next Scholarship Series: Works for trumpet and organ by Telemann, Fantini, Baldassare; horn trio by Brahms. Stephen Chenette trumpet; Douglas Bodle, organ; Eugene Rittich, french horn; Patricia Parr, piano; Lorand Fenyves, violin.
February 24, 1977, 8:30 p.m. Walter Hall.

PROGRAM

Cantate 21 - Ich hatte viel bekümmeris Bach
recitative - Ach Jesu meine Ruh
duet - Komm, mein Jesu, und erquicke

Cantate 32 - Liebster Jesu, mein Verlangen Bach
recitative - Ach heiliger und grosser Gott
duet - Nun verschwinden alle plagen

An die ferne Geliebte Beethoven
Gary Relyea

from Serate Musicali Rossini
La Promessa
La Gita in Gondola
La Pastorella

Mary-Lou Fallis

I N T E R M I S S I O N

from Don Giovanni Mozart
solo-Deh vieni alla finestra
Gary Relyea
duet-La ci darem la mano

Brentano Lieder R. Strauss
Ich wollt ein Strausslein binden
Amor
Dein Lied erklang
Mary-Lou Fallis

The Great Lakes Suite J. Beckwith
Rita Greer - clarinet Martin Shaver - cello

Ich wollt ein Strausslein binden

I meant to gether a posy, but then the dark night came; I could not find a flower which I might bring to you.

And from my eyes the tears into the dower fell; one single flower in blossom I now in the garden see.

I would have picked it for you from the dark clover patch, but it began to speak: "Oh, do not hurt me, pray!"

"Have kindness in your heart, think of the sorrow you feel, and do not let me die in pain before my time is due!

If it had not thus spoken in the garden all alone, I would have picked it for you, but now that must not be.

My love has broken her promise, and I am so alone. In love is always sorrow. It must ever be so.

Amor

By the fire sat the child, Cupid, Cupid. He was blind, With his little wings he fans up the flames, and he smiles. Fan, smile, you clever child.

Alas, the child's wing has caught fire. Cupid, Cupid runs off quickly - "Oh, how much the burn does pain me!" Fluttering, he loudly cries, runs off to the shepherdess with cries for help, the clever child.

Shepherdess, she helps the child, Cupid, Cupid, Bad and blind - Shepherdess, your heart's on fire; did'st not recognize the imp? See, the flame is growing fast - O Beware the clever child! Fan, smile, you clever child.

Dein Lied erklang

Thy song resounds! I heard it as it was drawn through the roses to the moon. You have won over even the coloured butterfly and the busy bee. The rose is my inspiration as I heard your song.

Thy song resounds! There was no tone in vain, the spring breathed for love, and as you sang immersed itself in the yearning stream of my whole life at the sun's setting.

As your song resounds!